

NETWORK TAP MODULE

ABSTRACT

5 A network tap module (100) having a network line
monitoring function has a signal splitter (102) to split a
signal (101) received from a network into a first copy
(105;111) which is returned to the network and a second
copy (104). A line monitoring and statistics circuit (106)
10 receives the second copy (104) of the signal and carries
out line monitoring and statistics collecting thereon. The
module (100) further has at least one of: (i) a display
(107) for displaying an indication of the state of the
network line based on the line monitoring and statistics
15 collection carried out by the line monitoring and
statistics circuit (106), and (ii) an interface (108) for
allowing data relating to the state of the network line
based on the line monitoring and statistics collection
carried out by the line monitoring and statistics circuit
20 (106) to be output from the module (100).